CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A lighting system comprising:

a light source,

a means of collecting and focusing light from said light source,

an aperture,

at least one color filter, and

an image lens; wherein

a light beam from said light source is focused through said aperture to define an object to be projected, said aperture being positioned upstream of said color filter.

2. The lighting system of claim 1 wherein:

said filter and said image lens are deployed in an area of said light beam where a diameter of said light beam is smaller than a diameter of said aperture.

3. The lighting system of claim 1 wherein:

said filter is a two stage filter, said filter comprising

a first gradient region that is partially coated with a pastel color filter medium,

a first region that is coated with said pastel color filter medium,

a second gradient region that is partially coated with a saturated color filter medium, and

a second region that is coated with said saturated color filter medium.

4. The lighting system of claim 3 wherein:

said first region overlaps said second gradient region.

5. The lighting system of claim 3 wherein:

said filter is formed from a single substrate.

6. The lighting system of claim 3 wherein:

said filter is formed from two substrates, said substrates being bonded together to form said filter.

7. The lighting system of claim 6 wherein:

said first region and said first gradient region are formed on a first one of said substrates, and

said second region and said second gradient region are formed on a second one of said substrates.

8. The lighting system of claim 3 wherein:

a centerline of said filter lies on an arc.

9. The lighting system of claim 8 wherein:

said filter is formed from a single substrate.

10. The lighting system of claim 8 wherein:

said filter is formed from two substrates, said substrates being bonded together to form said filter.

11. The lighting system of claim 10 wherein:

said first region and said first gradient region are formed on a first one of said substrates, and

said second region and said second gradient region are formed on a second one of said substrates.

12. The lighting system of claim 3 wherein:

a centerline of said filter lies on a straight line.

13. The lighting system of claim 8 wherein:

said filter is formed from a single substrate.

14. The lighting system of claim 8 wherein:

said filter is formed from two substrates, said substrates being bonded together to form said filter.

15. The lighting system of claim 10 wherein:

said first region and said first gradient region are formed on a first one of said substrates, and

said second region and said second gradient region are formed on a second one of said substrates.

16. A two stage filter comprising:

a first gradient region that is partially coated with a pastel color filter medium,

a first region that is coated with said pastel color filter medium,

a second gradient region that is partially coated with a saturated color filter medium, and

a second region that is coated with said saturated color filter medium.

17. The lighting system of claim 16 wherein:

said first region overlaps said second gradient region.

18. The two stage filter of claim 16 wherein:

said filter is formed from a single substrate.

19. The two stage filter of claim 16 wherein:

said filter is formed from two substrates, said substrates being bonded together to form said filter.

20. The two stage filter of claim 19 wherein:

said first region and said first gradient region are formed on a first one of said substrates, and

said second region and said second gradient region are formed on a second one of said substrates.

21. The two stage filter of claim 16 wherein:

a centerline of said filter lies on an arc.

22. The two stage filter of claim 21 wherein:

said filter is formed from a single substrate.

23. The two stage filter of claim 21 wherein:

said filter is formed from two substrates, said substrates being bonded together to form said filter.

24. The two stage filter of claim 23 wherein:

said first region and said first gradient region are formed on a first one of said substrates, and

said second region and said second gradient region are formed on a second one of said substrates.

25. The two stage filter of claim 16 wherein:

a centerline of said filter lies on a straight line.

26. The two stage filter of claim 25 wherein:

said filter is formed from a single substrate.

27. The two stage filter of claim 25 wherein:

said filter is formed from two substrates, said substrates being bonded together to form said filter.

28. The two stage filter of claim 27 wherein:

said first region and said first gradient region are formed on a first one of said substrates, and

said second region and said second gradient region are formed on a second one of said substrates.